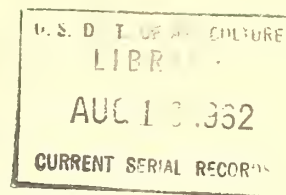


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Foreign PS AND MAIL



CROPS AND MARKETS

FOR RELEASE MONDAY, JULY 23, 1962

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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DUTCH TOBACCO IMPORTS DOWN SHARPLY

Gross imports (direct imports plus withdrawals from bond) of tobacco into the Netherlands totaled 17.5 million pounds in the first 3 months of 1962--less than half the quantity imported in January-March 1961.

Imports from the United States, at 5.8 million pounds, were less than half the 12.7 million taken in January-March 1961. Imports from other major suppliers--Indonesia, Brazil, and the Rhodesias-Nyasaland, also were substantially under those of a year ago. Purchases from the Republic of South Africa were only 346,000 pounds, compared with 3.4 million for the first quarter of 1961.

The drop in the Netherlands imports in the early months of 1962 reflects a more normal level than that which occurred a year ago when stocks were being built up.

TOBACCO, UNMANUFACTURED: The Netherlands, gross imports by country of origin, January-March 1960-62

Country of origin	January-March		
	1960	1961	1962
	1,000	1,000	1,000
	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>
United States.....	5,273	12,714	5,774
Indonesia.....	2,557	<u>1/</u> 6,287	<u>1/</u> 3,309
Brazil.....	1,975	4,614	1,949
Rhodesias-Nyasaland.....	2,687	6,876	1,497
Italy.....	593	950	871
Greece.....	234	326	410
South Africa, Republic of	410	3,355	346
India.....	668	1,120	346
Turkey.....	95	90	141
Cuba.....	306	317	126
Canada.....	77	68	---
Other.....	2,588	4,813	2,694
Total.....	17,463	41,530	17,463

1/ Includes quantities shipped via West Germany.

Maandstatistiek van de in-, uit-en doorvoer per goederensoort.

UGANDA'S CIGARETTE OUTPUT CONTINUES DOWNWARD

Cigarette output in Uganda continued its downward trend through 1961. Production last year totaled 2.8 million pounds, compared with 3.2 million in 1960 and the 1955 high of 6.8 million.

U.S. TOBACCO EXPORTS UP IN MAY

U.S. exports of unmanufactured tobacco in May 1962 totaled 29.2 million pounds, and were valued at \$22.2 million. This compares with 23.6 million pounds, valued at \$17.2 million in May 1961.

Increases were recorded in May of this year for flue-cured, Kentucky-Tennessee fire-cured, Virginia fire-cured, Maryland, and cigar wrapper and binder. Burley exports were substantially below those of May a year ago.

For the first 11 months of fiscal 1962, total U.S. exports of unmanufactured tobacco were about 1 percent larger, on a volume basis, than those for the similar period of fiscal 1961. The value was up 3.5 percent. For the first 5 months of calendar 1962, exports were up 6 percent from a year ago, and the value rose 7.9 percent.

TOBACCO, UNMANUFACTURED: U.S. exports by type, May and January-May 1961 and 1962, with percentage change

Type	(Export weight)					
	May		Percent change	January-May		Percent change
	1961	1962		1961	1962	
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	Percent	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	Percent
Flue-cured.....	18,851	23,351	+23.9	91,478	104,365	+14.1
Burley.....	2,779	2,033	-26.8	11,163	10,671	-4.4
Dk.-fired Ky.-Tenn.....	223	1,338	+500.0	8,175	5,546	-32.2
Va. fire-cured 1/.....	305	435	+42.6	2,263	1,998	-11.7
Maryland.....	490	595	+21.4	4,308	3,336	-22.6
Green River.....	6	121	---	307	441	+43.6
One Sucker.....	218	6	-97.2	333	72	-78.4
Black Fat, etc.....	304	283	-6.9	2,036	1,453	-28.6
Cigar wrapper.....	265	897	+238.5	1,337	1,987	+48.6
Cigar binder.....	37	45	+21.6	1,378	240	-82.6
Cigar filler.....	5	2	-60.0	45	2	-95.6
Other.....	164	109	-33.5	1,626	1,834	+12.8
Total.....	23,647	29,215	+23.5	124,449	131,945	+6.0
	Million dollars	Million dollars	Percent	Million dollars	Million dollars	Percent
Declared value.....	17.2	22.2	+29.1	91.5	98.7	+7.9

1/ Includes sun-cured.

Bureau of the Census.

U.S. exports of tobacco products in May 1962 were valued at \$9 million. Exports of all products, except smoking tobacco in packages, were below those of May 1961. Cigarette exports, at 1,880 million pieces, were down 2.4 percent from May 1961. For the first 5 months of calendar 1962, the value of tobacco product exports at \$48 million was 10.1 percent larger than in January-May 1961.

TOBACCO PRODUCTS: U.S. exports, May and January-May
1961 and 1962, with percentage change

Products and value	May		:Percent: :change	January-May		:Percent: :change
	1961	1962		1961	1962	
Cigar and cheroots						
(1,000 pieces).....	1,559	1,556	- .2	6,320	8,448	+33.7
Cigarettes						
(Million pieces).....	1,926	1,880	- 2.4	9,078	9,986	+10.0
Chewing and snuff						
(1,000 pounds).....	59	27	-54.2	341	204	-40.2
Smoking tobacco in pkgs.						
(1,000 pounds).....	43	78	+81.4	296	287	- 3.0
Smoking tobacco in bulk						
(1,000 pounds).....	1,069	522	-51.2	2,995	3,062	+2.2
Total declared value						
(Million dollars)	9.5	9.0	- 5.3	43.6	48.0	+10.1
Bureau of the Census.						

DANISH USE OF LEAF
TOBACCO LOWER

Use of leaf tobacco by Danish manufacturers during 1961, at 27.4 million pounds, was 1.7 percent smaller than the 27.8 million pounds used in 1960.

Leaf used in cigarettes was only slightly larger than the 13.6 million pounds in 1960. Combined usings in the production of cigars, cheroots, and cigarillos totaled 9.5 million pounds, compared with 9.4 million a year ago. Leaf used in smoking mixtures, at 3.7 million pounds, was 8.6 percent below the 1960 level of 4.1 million pounds. Leaf used in the production of chewing tobacco was about the same as a year ago, while leaf used in snuff was down.

RHODESIAN FLUE-CURED SALES
ABOUT 60 PERCENT COMPLETED

Auction sales of flue-cured tobacco at Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia totaled 154.7 million pounds through the 17th week of the current marketing season. The average price was equivalent to 43.3 U.S. cents per pound. For the similar period last year, sales totaled 135.1 million pounds at an average price of 43.2 cents per pound.

WEST GERMAN CIGARETTE EXPORTS UP SHARPLY

West Germany's exports of cigarettes during 1961 totaled 1,124 million pieces, compared with 643 million in 1960, and the 1955-59 annual average of 142 million.

The leading export market is Italy, followed by Austria, Switzerland, Japan, and the Netherlands. Shipments to Italy totaled 526 million pieces and represented about 47 percent of total exports. Combined exports to the Netherlands, Belgium, France, and Italy rose from 350 million pieces in 1960 to 585 million in 1961.

Combined exports from West Germany and West Berlin last year totaled 1,458 million pieces, compared with 879 million in 1960. German trade sources estimate that Astor Filter accounts for about 29 percent of all cigarettes exported, followed by HB Kronenfilter 20 percent, Peter Stuyvesant 11 percent, and Peer Export 10 percent.

AUSTRALIA'S MILK PRODUCTION INCREASES

Milk production in Australia continued its upward trend in first quarter 1962, when output of 3,856 million pounds was 10 percent above comparable 1961.

Output of major dairy products increased significantly. Production of butter was up 14 percent to 119 million pounds; cheese rose 19 percent to 29 million pounds. Of the other dairy products, only condensed whole milk and dried whole milk were produced in smaller quantities than in first quarter 1961.

Exports of cheese, the only dairy product shipped in greater volume in the January-March quarter of 1962, were up 11 percent to 16 million pounds.

Butter shipments declined 23 percent to 43 million pounds, largely because of reduced sales to the United Kingdom--35 million pounds compared with 51 million last year. In the period October 1, 1961-March 31, 1962, the major suppliers voluntarily agreed to limit butter shipments to the United Kingdom to 475 million pounds. Australia's quota for this 6-month period was 94 million pounds. For the year April 1, 1962-March 31, 1963, the United Kingdom has set Australia's quota at 139 million pounds. These restrictions on butter imports are the result of increasing domestic production in the United Kingdom and a growing volume of shipments to the United Kingdom from other countries.

The Dairy Produce Board is continuing its efforts to open additional overseas outlets for butter and other dairy products.

FRENCH CIGARETTE IMPORTS SET RECORD

French cigarette imports continued upward during 1961 and set a new record.

Imports totaled 4.8 million pounds, compared with 4.2 million in 1960. The previous high was in 1931 when 4.5 million pounds were imported.

Imports of U.S. cigarettes rose from 2.7 million pounds in 1960 to 3.1 million in 1961 and represented about 65 percent of total imports during the last 2 years. Takings from the United Kingdom were 17 percent greater than the .9 million pounds imported in 1960. Combined imports from Italy, Belgium, West Germany, and the Netherlands amounted to 366,000 pounds, compared with 324,000 pounds.

SOUTH AFRICA'S OUTPUT OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS DOWN

Output of tobacco products in the Republic of South Africa during 1961 totaled 48.4 million pounds, compared with 50.5 million in 1960.

Cigarette output, at 24 million pounds, was 1.4 percent smaller than the 1960 level of 24.4 million. Production of pipe tobacco was 1.2 million pounds smaller than the 22.3 million pounds produced in 1960. Production of other products, except snuff, was also smaller than for the previous year.

COLOMBIA LIMITS IMPORTS OF MOST LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

Foreign exchange problems aggravated by sagging coffee prices have led the Colombian Government to impose insurmountable barriers on most imports of meat products.

Most products are barred entry and those not restricted are subject to high duties, both specific and ad valorem, and prior license requirements. Inedible tallow and hydrogenated fats and oils are about the only animal products permitted entry. These enter subject to prior license which may be denied if authorities deem the foreign exchange situation critical.

There are no restrictions specifically aimed at U.S. meat products; however, there is some indication that any tallow imports above 1961 levels will have to be made through barter arrangements with coffee. Due to the recent soap promotion program in Colombia, soap makers would probably increase their purchases of tallow in 1962 if financing problems could be overcome.

ARGENTINA ANNOUNCES NEW AID TO DROUGHT AREAS

The Argentine Minister of Agriculture has announced new measures to aid farmers in drought areas, especially those who have been forced to liquidate cattle herds.

The new measures are as follows: (1) the government is authorized to lend money to livestock producers in drought areas to slow down liquidation of herds; (2) freight rates have been reduced 25 percent for moving cattle out of drought areas; (3) the National Grain Board is authorized to purchase oats, rye, barley, and sorghums to resell to livestock producers at the purchase price with no transport charge involved; and (4) funds have been made available for loans to grain producers to cover seeding expenses.

AUSTRALIAN MEAT SHIPMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES

Three ships left Australia the last week of June with 3,404,800 pounds of beef, and 811,680 pounds of mutton for the United States.

Ship	Sailing date	Destination ^{1/}	Arrival date	Cargo	Quantity
					<u>Pounds</u>
Whangaroa.....	June 21	Houston	July 16	Beef	490,560
		"	" "	Mutton	100,800
		New Orleans	" 21	Beef	333,760
		" "	" "	Mutton	324,800
		Charleston	" 25	Beef	123,200
		"	" "	Mutton	100,800
		Boston	" 28	Beef	152,320
		New York	" 30	Beef	779,520
		" "	" "	Mutton	224,000
		Philadelphia	Aug. 4	Beef	329,280
		"	" "	Mutton	38,080
Pioneer Gem...	June 23	Charleston	July 25	Beef	67,200
		"	" "	Mutton	33,600
		Boston	" 29	Beef	324,800
		"	" "	Mutton	22,400
		New York	Aug. 3	Beef	250,880
		" "	" "	Mutton	33,600
		Baltimore	" 8	Beef	96,320
		"	" "	Mutton	33,600
Oriana.....	June 27	San Francisco	July 14	Beef	365,120
		Los Angeles	" 16	Beef	91,840

^{1/} Cities listed indicate location of purchaser and usually the port of arrival and general market area, but meat may be diverted to other areas for sale.

AUSTRIA OFFERS SMALL MARKET FOR U.S. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

Austria is nearly self-sufficient in production of meat and meat products.

It generally imports these items only on short notice, therefore virtually eliminating the U.S. as a source of supply. The Austrian Government has adhered to a program of trading with Eastern European countries through bilateral trade agreements and rigid import controls. This policy results from the proximity of Eastern Europe and the importance of its markets to Austria. Austria accepts agricultural products in return for her industrial goods because many of the Bloc countries have little else for exchange.

The United States has been a major supplier of inedible tallow and a sizable supplier of casings. However, Austrian imports of tallow and casings dropped sharply in 1961 and are not expected to show much improvement this year.

The United States and other western countries are excluded from most import tenders for meat and meat products issued by the Austrian Livestock Marketing Board. Imports of raw pork are also banned from the United States by veterinary regulations. However, the Austrian Government would consider lifting this ban if it could be assured that pork imports would not introduce hog cholera or other diseases.

NEW STOCKYARDS AT ASUNCION, PARAGUAY

New stockyards have been completed on the west bank of the Paraguay River 8 miles north of Asuncion.

The center, belonging to Corporacion Paraguaya de Carnes (COPECAR), has been built to receive cattle from the Chaco region. The stockyards hold 2,000 cattle; have a large area of pasture land; a headquarters building with living quarters, and an airstrip for light planes.

After cattle have been received at the stockyards they will be loaded on barges and shipped down river to be slaughtered at existing plants.

WORLD WOOL PRICES CONTINUE STABLE

European wool trade leaders expect world wool prices to remain close to recent levels during the next few months since wool stocks are low in many textile manufacturing countries and consumption has increased in a number of minor consuming countries.

Steady demand should hold prices firm but manmade fibers will continue to be the major factor affecting wool prices. World production of synthetic non-cellulostic fiber is expected to total about 3.4 billion pounds by the end of 1963, compared with only 200 million in 1951. The United States continues to be the dominant producer of these synthetics but production has increased sharply in Japan, the United Kingdom, France, West Germany, Italy, and the U.S.S.R.

PRESIDENT SIGNS SUGAR BILL GIVING PERMANENT QUOTAS TO 22 COUNTRIES

A new era of U.S. sugar legislation was ushered into existence on Friday, July 13, when President Kennedy signed a compromised version of the House-Senate bills into law.

The 1962 Sugar Act represents a significant departure from the terms by which the United States, the world's leading sugar importer, has augmented its domestic supplies over the past 28 years. Details of the 1962 Sugar Act with recent legislative proposals will be presented in a Foreign Agriculture Circular. Thirteen countries were added to the 9 countries formerly holding permanent quotas.

Probably the most important feature of the new Act is the assignment of the Cuban reserve (slightly over 16 per cent of the U.S. market) to foreign producers on a free competitive basis referred to as a "global quota." The global volume amounts to 1,634,122 short tons, raw value and represents about half the quota formerly allotted to Cuba. The balance of Cuba's former allotment has been divided among other suppliers.

BRAZIL'S COFFEE EXPORTS UP

Brazil exported 17,371,420 bags (132.276 lbs. per bag) of coffee during the 1961-62 marketing year (July-June).

This was 7.7 percent above the 16,126,656 bags exported during the 1960-61 marketing year. Coffee exports during June 1962 were 1,160,828 bags, compared to 1,028,343 bags exported during June, 1961.

U.S. COCOA BEAN GRINDINGS INCREASE

Grindings of cocoa beans during the first 6 months of 1962 have totaled 277.5 million pounds, up 6.4 percent over the corresponding period of 1961.

A total of 540.3 million pounds of cocoa beans were processed in the United States during 1961. Per capita U.S. consumption of cocoa beans during 1961 was estimated at 3.8 pounds, compared with 3.5 pounds in 1960.

U.S. IMPORTS
MORE COFFEE

The United States imported 11,929,509 bags (132.276 lbs. per bag) of coffee during January-June 1962.

This is 4.4 percent higher than the 11,428,666 bags imported during the same period in 1961, and the highest amount imported during the first 6 months of any year.

SUGAR EXPORTS TO U.S. CREATE
SHORTAGE IN PARAGUAY

Authorized exports of 5,000 short tons of sugar to the United States are reported to have caused a shortage in Paraguay's domestic market.

The exports were authorized under the Cuban replacement provisions of the U.S. Sugar Act. To compensate for this shortage, Paraguay will begin milling of the new crop earlier than usual.

Production during last season closed at about 29,000 metric tons. Production during the new season may be somewhat lower because of reduced sugarcane plantings.

The new Sugar Act provides Paraguay with a permanent quota of 9,900 short tons, from which another 3,736 short tons was authorized for the remainder of 1962.

INDIA REPORTS
RECORD WHEAT CROP

India's 1962 wheat production is at an alltime high, according to the first official estimate of 427 million bushels.

The present estimate is 10 percent above the 1961 harvest of 390 million bushels and 29 percent above the 1955-59 average of 331 million. Increases are attributed to gains in both acreage and yields.

Acreage for the current crop is estimated at 32.9 million acres, about 5 percent above the comparable estimate for 1961. Preliminary yield estimates of 13 bushel per acre are slightly more than 5 percent larger.

U.S. FEED GRAIN EXPORTS
SET RECORD

U.S. feed grain exports at 12.6 million metric tons during July-May 1962 increased 24 percent above the same period of the preceding year.

(Continued)

FEED GRAINS: U. S. exports to principal countries, July-May 1960-61 and July-May 1961-62

Country of destination	Corn <u>1/</u>	Oats	Barley	Sorghum	Total
	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons
July-May 1960-61:					
Canada	682,459:	22 :	13,498:	15,428:	711,407
Mexico	39,932:	1,161 :	39,492:	23,938:	104,523
Other Western Hemisphere	64,035:	1,811 :	133 :	5,477:	71,456
Austria	181,807:	3,476 :	55,070:	11,081:	251,434
Belgium-Luxembourg	430,230:	34,934 :	91,793:	384,710:	941,667
Denmark	17,389:	1,267 :	71,879:	47,979:	138,514
France	4,820:	-- :	-- :	1,130:	5,950
Germany, West	299,665:	16,800 :	196,482:	70,767:	583,714
Greece	102,644:	-- :	50,709:	4,399:	157,752
Ireland	96,678:	-- :	1,524:	-- :	98,202
Italy	106,639:	7,875 :	58,002:	17,502:	190,018
Netherlands	1,005,578:	279,837 :	223,421:	601,908:	2,110,744
Norway	41,864:	-- :	508 :	43,966:	86,338
Poland	60,412:	-- :	246,073:	97,359:	403,844
Spain	176,519:	-- :	185,035:	238 :	361,792
Sweden	6,806:	1,040 :	2,754:	6,723:	17,323
Switzerland	7,787:	25,934 :	25,643:	10,169:	69,533
United Kingdom	1,840,497:	-- :	6,292:	293,900:	2,140,689
Other Europe	21,852:	14 :	8,769:	200:	30,835
India	89,433:	-- :	-- :	53,246:	142,679
Israel	112,109:	-- :	43,134:	184,024:	339,267
Japan	555,061:	-- :	-- :	130,536:	685,597
Other Asia and Oceania	35,019:	119 :	348,149:	12,083:	395,370
Egypt	39,775:	-- :	-- :	-- :	39,775
Other Africa	61,089:	-- :	46,116:	17,077:	124,282
Total	6,080,099:	374,290 :	1,714,476:	2,033,840:	10,202,705
July-May 1961-62:					
Canada	1,043,664:	80,875 :	56,041:	2,706:	1,183,286
Mexico	29,764:	764 :	27,913:	40,201:	98,642
Other Western Hemisphere	149,171:	2,386 :	238 :	16,548:	168,343
Austria	183,484:	-- :	11,000:	-- :	194,484
Belgium-Luxembourg	461,363:	1,023 :	33,463:	524,234:	1,020,083
Denmark	69,764:	-- :	32,410:	67,074:	169,248
France	636:	2,032 :	49,959:	14,146:	66,773
Germany, West	523,679:	41,259 :	612,848:	59,919:	1,237,705
Greece	80,494:	-- :	41,507:	-- :	122,001
Ireland	122,040:	-- :	1,638:	7,122:	130,800
Italy	397,104:	-- :	8,108:	1,989:	407,201
Netherlands	1,363,995:	49,412 :	164,253:	558,578:	2,136,238
Norway	98,400:	-- :	1,817:	50,271:	150,488
Poland	-- :	-- :	94,906:	-- :	94,906
Spain	185,188:	-- :	92,724:	3,805:	281,717
Sweden	9,507:	-- :	-- :	-- :	9,507
Switzerland	60,011:	2,235 :	12,708:	11,374:	86,328
United Kingdom	2,310,083:	-- :	2,519:	102,328:	2,414,930
Other Europe	78,852:	26 :	19,307:	54:	98,239
India	89,350:	-- :	-- :	-- :	89,350
Israel	154,014:	-- :	6,401:	203,306:	363,721
Japan	855,985:	-- :	-- :	246,297:	1,102,282
Other Asia and Oceania	68,070:	263 :	23,541:	15:	91,889
Egypt	354,386:	-- :	-- :	-- :	354,386
Other Africa	193,304:	-- :	269,638:	49,248:	512,190
Total	8,882,308:	180,275 :	1,562,939:	1,959,215:	12,584,737

1/ Includes seed corn, except sweet, and exports for relief.

Compiled from the records of the U. S. Department of Commerce.

Preliminary estimates for the 1961-62 season indicate that total exports will equal or exceed 14 million metric tons as compared with 11.5 million tons during the previous season.

Corn shipments were largely responsible for the increase as exports of other feed grains declined.

Corn exports totaled 8.9 million metric tons--46 percent over the 6.1 million tons shipped in the similar period of 1960. Increased shipments were largely to West Germany, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and Japan.

Oats shipments were down 52 percent--from 374,000 tons in 1961 to 180,000 tons this year. Shipments to Belgium-Luxembourg, the Netherlands, and Switzerland showed a sharp decline; however, increased exports to Canada, West Germany, and Italy helped to offset the loss.

Barley exports were down 9 percent--from 1.7 million tons to 1.6 million. Smaller shipments to Canada, Belgium-Luxembourg, and the Far East were largely responsible for the decrease. Exports to West Germany increased substantially.

Sorghum shipments showed a slight decrease of 4 percent over the similar period last year, however, a considerable increase was shown in exports to France, Ireland, Poland, and Spain.

U.S. WHEAT AND FLOUR EXPORTS SET RECORD

U.S. exports of wheat and flour during fiscal 1962 reached a new record of 714 million bushels, according to preliminary tabulations. This compares with 662 million bushels exported in fiscal 1961.

Wheat and flour exported from the United States from July 1961 through May 1962 amounted to 660 million bushels, compared with 609 million bushels for the same period of 1960-61. Exports for the 11-month period were 8 percent higher than the previous year.

Wheat exports totaled 559 million bushels compared with 515 million a year earlier. Exports increased to certain destinations which more than offset lower exports to others. Shipments to Brazil, the Netherlands, Japan, and Yugoslavia were larger than the previous season. In contrast, exports declined to Italy, Poland, India, and Pakistan.

Flour exports amounted to 101 million bushels, compared with 94 million for 1960-61. Exports increased to Egypt which continues to be the largest market for U.S. flour. Slight increases were also made in shipments to the United Kingdom and Japan.

(Continued)

WHEAT AND FLOUR: U. S. exports by country of destination, July-May 1960-61 and July-May 1961-62

Country of destination	July-May 1960-61			July-May 1961-62		
	Wheat	Flour 1/	Total	Wheat	Flour 1/	Total
	<u>bushels</u>	<u>bushels</u>	<u>bushels</u>	<u>bushels</u>	<u>bushels</u>	<u>bushels</u>
Western Hemisphere:						
Canada	7,249	88	7,337	12,038	165	12,203
Central America	2,799	2,936	5,735	2,857	2,598	5,455
Cuba	547	1,197	1,744	--	--	--
Haiti	742	87	829	1,760	58	1,818
Trinidad and Tobago	21	1,029	1,050	11	1,421	1,432
Bolivia	--	2,899	2,899	196	3,174	3,370
Brazil	35,689	165	35,854	46,512	287	46,799
Chile	--	935	935	6,937	1,574	8,511
Colombia	3,446	898	4,344	3,563	992	4,555
Paraguay	--	66	66	2,358	59	2,417
Peru	3,443	401	3,844	6,621	449	7,070
Venezuela	7,304	111	7,415	10,442	114	10,556
Others	2,778	2,863	5,641	960	3,402	4,362
Total	64,018	13,675	77,693	94,255	14,293	108,548
Europe:						
Belgium-Luxembourg	4,252	4	4,256	5,823	2	5,825
France	1,175	2	1,177	3,607	2/	3,607
Germany, West	6,362	314	6,676	13,386	157	13,543
Greece	3,101	1,918	5,019	1,986	1,958	3,944
Italy	42,939	5,430	48,369	13,580	5,892	19,472
Netherlands	7,099	3,220	10,319	21,626	3,530	25,156
Norway	1,315	407	1,722	3,733	15	3,748
Poland	39,648	748	40,396	15,969	978	16,947
Portugal	4,228	765	4,993	8,856	601	9,457
Spain	26,140	375	26,515	23,482	502	23,984
Switzerland	3,346	5	3,351	5,238	2/	5,238
United Kingdom	15,734	1,866	17,600	14,544	3,066	17,610
Yugoslavia	9,303	1,916	11,219	31,937	2,306	34,243
Others	2,426	667	3,093	2,046	919	2,965
Total	167,068	17,637	184,705	165,813	19,926	185,739
Asia:						
Ceylon	--	3,228	3,228	--	3,028	3,028
India	117,368	270	117,638	85,122	686	85,808
Indonesia	--	681	681	--	2,777	2,777
Iran	6,733	232	6,965	3,684	608	4,292
Israel	7,372	209	7,581	8,051	131	8,182
Japan	27,974	2,491	30,465	30,891	3,339	34,230
Jordan	3,004	2,893	5,897	8	3,211	3,219
Korea	11,026	939	11,965	10,120	901	11,021
Lebanon	741	880	1,621	202	92	294
Pakistan	35,334	860	36,194	25,239	733	25,972
Philippines	6,697	1,450	8,147	7,595	905	8,500
Saudi Arabia	29	2,840	2,869	78	2,185	2,263
Syria	6,264	6,990	13,254	3,417	3,603	7,020
Taiwan	8,787	1,420	10,207	11,091	1,001	12,092
Turkey	14,923	104	15,027	45,752	218	45,970
Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia	575	3,826	4,401	148	2,494	2,642
Others	3,275	2,902	6,177	1,524	2,834	4,358
Total	250,102	32,215	282,317	232,922	28,746	261,668
Africa:						
Algeria	3,032	372	3,404	10,441	422	10,863
Congo, Republic of the	--	580	580	--	2,012	2,012
Egypt	16,789	24,821	41,610	24,919	29,734	54,653
Morocco	4,736	809	5,545	14,277	1,182	15,459
Nigeria	--	1,831	1,831	234	1,654	1,888
Tunisia	5,809	60	5,869	14,089	150	14,239
Others	3,862	1,847	5,709	2,323	2,672	4,995
Total	34,228	30,320	64,548	66,283	37,826	104,109
Oceania	--	41	41	--	37	37
World total 3/.....	515,416	93,888	609,304	559,273	100,828	660,101

1/ Wholly of U.S. wheat (grain equivalent). 2/ Less than 500 bushels. 3/ Includes shipments for relief or charity.

CANADA'S 1961 CENSUS REVISES GRAIN ACREAGE

The recently released census of Canadian acreage shows significant changes from Dominion Bureau of Statistics estimates, which will be brought into line with census figures, as time permits.

The largest differences from the Dominion's figures are in wheat acreage and land under fallow. An increase of about 5 million acres is indicated over the Dominion's estimates for wheat and fallow, partly offset by lower estimates for oats and barley.

A comparison of the two series follows.

GRAIN: Canada, acreage estimates, 1961

Land Use	: Dominion Bureau : of : Statistics' estimates:	: Census : estimates
	: <u>1,000 acres</u>	: <u>1,000 acres</u>
Wheat:		
Fall sown.....	550	773
Durum.....	1,791	1,857
Other spring.....	21,451	22,686
Total.....	23,792	25,316
Oats for grain.....	11,583	10,515
Barley.....	6,090	5,528
Mixed grains.....	1,563	1,565
Rye.....	520	562
Corn, for grain.....	510	407
Buckwheat.....	77	59
Summerfallow 1/.....	24,372	27,859
1/ Fallow acreage in the Prairie Provinces.		

If the government's preliminary forecast of 1962 wheat acreage is subject to the same adjustment indicated for 1961, present wheat acreage has a higher production potential than had been expected.

WEST GERMANY IMPORTS MORE RICE

Rice imports into West Germany increased 40 percent in the first 10 months of fiscal 1962 (July-June).

Imports of all types from July through April totaled 136,473 metric tons, 39,045 more than in the same months of 1960-61. The United States was by far the principal supplier, with 56 percent of the total.

(Continued)

RICE: West Germany, imports by country of origin and by classification, January-April 1962, with comparisons

Country of origin	: July-June :	July-April		January-April	
	: 1960-61 :	: 1960-61 :	: 1961-62 :	: 1961 :	: 1962 :
	: Metric	: Metric	: Metric	: Metric	: Metric
	: tons	: tons	: tons	: tons	: tons
Semi-milled:					
Communist countries <u>1/</u> :	1,022	1,022	0	0	0
Egypt	23,281	17,160	2,517	4,824	0
Italy	7,473	6,760	21,325	2,399	13,888
Morocco	843	595	249	0	0
Spain	11,279	10,779	1,311	4,258	645
Surinam	9,842	6,663	9,485	3,194	5,446
United States	35,593	27,661	76,091	15,814	39,622
Others	2,505	1,016	2,960	200	2,507
Total	91,838	71,656	113,938	30,689	62,108
Milled, whole:					
Italy	2,665	1,685	3,963	1,052	1,449
Netherlands	5,058	4,217	3,917	1,776	1,525
Others	3,195	2,874	1,782	281	1,029
Total	10,918	8,776	9,662	3,109	4,003
Broken:					
Burma	7,284	6,269	4,861	1,164	1,182
China, Mainland	5,385	5,385	1,418	2,292	1,418
Egypt	3,951	2,591	1,661	1,853	214
Others	4,578	2,750	4,934	1,459	2,940
Total	21,198	16,995	12,874	6,768	5,754
All Rice:					
Argentina	401	353	1,562	155	768
Burma	7,551	6,536	5,129	1,164	1,449
Communist countries <u>1/</u> :	8,508	8,508	1,418	2,374	1,418
Egypt	27,232	19,751	4,178	6,678	214
Italy	10,228	8,534	25,342	3,451	15,337
Netherlands	5,701	4,712	4,362	1,924	1,673
Spain	11,279	10,779	1,807	4,258	1,141
Surinam	10,948	7,770	9,556	3,990	5,446
Thailand	2,304	820	1,688	198	1,094
United States	37,710	28,670	77,052	16,133	40,187
Others	2,092	995	4,379	240	3,137
Total	123,954	97,428	136,473	40,565	71,864

1/ Bulgaria, Mainland China, Hungary, North Korea, and North Vietnam.

Der Aussenhandel der Bundesrepublik Deutschland.

Rice imports from Italy, the second principal source, also gained sharply. Imports from Surinam, Thailand, and Argentina increased to some extent.

Quantities from Egypt and Spain were much less. Those from Communist countries were about 1,400 tons, compared with 8,500 in the same period of 1960-61.

Eighty-three percent of the July-April imports were classified as "semi-milled" rice. Two-thirds of it came from the United States, 19 percent from Italy, 8 percent from Surinam, and 6 percent from other countries.

Imports in the first 4 months of 1962 calendar year, at 71,864 tons, were about 31,300 more than from January through April 1961. Fifty-six percent of the rice came from the United States. Of the 40,487 tons from the United States, 39,622 were semi-milled, or brown rice. Italy and Surinam were the next principal sources for rice in the January-April 1962 period, supplying 15,337 and 5,446 tons, respectively.

BURMA'S RICE EXPORT COMMITMENTS NEARLY FULFILLED FOR FISCAL YEAR

By June 30 Burma had exported 90 percent of its foreign commitments for the current October-September fiscal year.

Of the 1,700,000 metric tons committed, Burma exported 1,526,000 from October 1 to June 30, leaving 174,000 to be exported between July 1 and September 30. Stocks of rice and rice products of the State Agricultural Marketing Board were estimated on June 30 at about 170,000 tons; stock data of other millers were not available.

Rice exports from October through June of 1960-61 and 1959-60 were 1,121,000 and 1,730,000 tons, respectively.

In the first half of 1962, exports totaled 1,283,000 tons. By months they were as follows (1,000 tons): January 69; February 194; March 307; April 296; May 242; and June 175.

SUEZ CANAL OIL-BEARING MATERIAL SHIPMENTS CONTINUE AT REDUCED VOLUME

The volume of oil-bearing materials shipped through the Suez Canal in May 1962 was 13 percent below that of April 1962 (Foreign Crops and Markets, June 11, 1962), and almost one-fifth less than the quantities shipped in April 1961.

(Continued)

OIL-BEARING MATERIALS: Suez Canal, northbound shipments by kinds,
April 1961 and 1962, and October-May 1960-61 and 1961-62

Item	May		October-May	
	1961	1962	1960-61	1961-62
	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons
Soybeans <u>1</u> /.....	5,000	155	207,000	142,549
Copra.....	35,000	41,743	519,000	403,300
Peanuts.....	6,000	8,159	91,000	133,117
Cottonseed.....	14,000	22,634	75,000	98,551
Flaxseed <u>2</u> /.....	1,000	5,231	11,000	30,820
Castor beans.....)		7,104)	27,580
Palm nuts and kernels.....)	24,000	2,484) 150,000	23,465
Others.....)		15,786)	114,724
Total.....	85,000	103,296	1,053,000	974,106

1/ 1 metric ton of soybeans equals 36.743333 bushels.

2/ 1 metric ton of flaxseed equals 39.367857 bushels.

Suez Canal Authority, (Cairo, Egypt).

Total shipments of all oil-bearing materials through May 1962 of the U.S. marketing year beginning October 1, 1961, were 7 percent smaller than shipments during the comparable period of the previous marketing year.

SOYBEANS: Suez Canal, northbound shipments, April, May, June, and quarterly totals, 1957-61

Month and Quarter	Year beginning October 1				
	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
	- - - - - 1,000 bushels - - - - -				
April.....	1,212	2,756	4,556	441	231
May.....	1,286	2,792	2,866	184	155
June.....	1,176	4,152	1,213	588	---
October-December.....	1,029	4,189	8,598	919	919
January-March.....	5,328	10,435	13,999	6,062	4,082
April-June.....	3,674	9,700	8,635	1,213	---
July-September.....	7,275	5,879	2,756	2,776	---
October-September.....	17,306	30,203	33,988	10,970	

Soybean and copra shipments were smaller than in the previous marketing year whereas peanuts, cottonseed, flaxseed, and other oil-bearing material shipments increased substantially.

The movements of soybeans (presumed to be Chinese) through the Canal from October through May of the current marketing year are running below the volume shipped in the comparable period of the marketing years beginning October 1, 1957, 1958, 1959, and 1960.

CANADIAN FLAXSEED, RAPESEED PLANTINGS REDUCED SHARPLY

Canadian farmers have reduced flaxseed and rapeseed acreages sharply this year in favor of wheat and other grains.

Plantings of each in the Prairie Provinces, where the bulk of the flaxseed and all of the rapeseed are produced, are 1,391,000 and 404,500 acres, respectively, according to the preliminary estimates by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Flaxseed area has declined one-third from the 1961 revised estimate of 2,051,000 acres, and appears to be the smallest since 1954 when only 1,177,000 acres were planted. Rapeseed area is 43 percent less than the 710,300 acres (revised) planted last year.

The above estimates, released July 4, will be followed on August 1 by the regular acreage report for crops seeded, by provinces.

MEXICAN OILSEED PRODUCTION UP SHARPLY IN 1961; FATS AND OILS IMPORTS WILL DECLINE

Mexico's 1961 oilseed production at 1.4 million short tons increased one-sixth from the previous year. No significant change is expected in 1962. Imports of fats and oils in 1962 are expected to decline as a result of this increased domestic production.

Mexican oilseed production in 1961 recovered sharply from the low level of 1960 largely because of increases in the production of cottonseed, palm kernel, copra, and safflower seed. Despite increased production, strong demand together with low stocks resulted in a sharp rise in vegetable oil prices late in 1961. Prices have since declined as a result of increased domestic supplies and imports of about 16,500 short tons of cottonseed oil from the United States in 1961.

The trade reports that a moderate rise in the production of fats and oils may cause prices to decline and continue to remain well below the 1961 level.

(Continued)

Exports consist chiefly of cottonseed cake and meal and peanuts, the major portions of which go to the United States and Canada. Cake and meal exports may decline moderately in 1962. Exports of vegetable fats and oils have been negligible and no change is expected.

Imports of oilseeds, consisting largely of cottonseed and soybeans from the United States, declined significantly in 1961 due to the increase in domestic production. Little change is expected in 1962. Fats and oils imports, mainly cottonseed, soybean oil, and olive oil, which made significant gains in 1961, are expected to decline sharply in 1962. Cake and meal imports, although small, are expected to increase as a result of feed shortages in some border areas.

Total per capita consumption of fats and oils estimated at 10.7 kilograms (23.6 pounds) in 1961, was up about 3 percent from the previous year. Consumption is expected to reach a level of 10.9 kilograms (24 pounds) in 1962. Approximately 85 percent of the utilization is for human consumption.

NIGER REORGANIZES PEANUT MARKETING

The Government of Niger has recently put into effect the second of two major steps in its policy to reorganize the peanut market.

The stated purposes of the reforms are: (1) to enable the Niger to sell commercial peanuts at competitive prices on the world market; and (2) to place the market in the hands of a single organization which will be able, in concert with other organizations existing in Nigeria and Senegal, to present a united front in dealing with the European Common Market.

The first phase of the reorganization was established by a decree of November 1, 1961, regulating commercial operations for the purchase of peanuts from Niger producers. The decree became effective for the 1961-62 crop.

The second phase of the reorganization has recently been put into effect by a government decree which requires all private enterprises to subscribe to the newly created semi-public corporation, Societe Nigerienne de Commercialisation de l'Arachide (SONARA). This organization has been given exclusive control over the marketing of the peanut stocks purchased by the private firms. This phase becomes effective in the 1962-63 season.

Under the proposed operational pattern, the Government of Niger will establish both the annual purchase quotas of the private firms and a base price to be paid to the individual producers.

(Continued)

The private firms will in turn sell their peanut stocks to SONARA at a price fixed by the government upon consultation with SONARA. The latter price will include a reasonable level of profit for the private firms. SONARA will be responsible for the selling of the peanut crop either on the export market or to the domestic peanut oil refineries (to meet an annual quota established by the government). Profits realized by SONARA will be redistributed among the various stockholders; losses sustained by SONARA will be covered by the Price Stabilization Fund.

With establishment of SONARA, the Government of Niger has completed the basic reorganization of the Niger peanut market. The major features of this reorganization were the internal regulation of the market through the elimination of middlemen, the extension of the government licensing system to cover all activities connected with the market, and the consolidation of the operations of the major private firms into a semi-public organization.

The government hopes that these actions will permit competitive marketing of the Niger peanut crop on the world market, especially after the discontinuation of the French purchase guarantees. While there has been no definite time limit set for the end of the French guarantees, the Government of Niger anticipates that they will cease in 1963 and following that date, Niger peanuts will have to be sold at the world market price. The present French guarantee is for the purchase of 94,000 metric tons (shelled) at a minimum price of 1.05 NF per kilo (\$214 per ton), c.i.f. French port (Foreign Crops and Markets, December 25, 1961). Peanut prices, c.i.f. European ports, which had averaged about \$192 per metric ton in January 1962, declined to an average of about \$170 in June.

Under the new system, the Government of Niger will be able to reduce prices paid to individual producers and, through SONARA, can regulate the profit margin of the purchasing firms. In point of fact, the Government of Niger has begun to reduce the prices paid to the individual producers. The 1960-61 price was .48 NF per kilo (4.44 cents per pound) whereas the 1961-62 price was set at .45 NF per kilo (4.17 cents). If necessary, the Government of Niger estimates that it can reduce the price to .40 NF per kilo (3.70 cents) without serious consequences.

MEXICAN VEGETABLE AND FRUIT SHIPMENTS

The following quantities of vegetables and fruit crossed the border at Nogales, Arizona during the period June 16 to June 30, 1962 (in thousands of pounds, last year's figures in parentheses): cantaloups 997 (100); garlic 33 (1); peppers 2 (0); tomatoes 735 (23); watermelons 1,058 (183); and grapes 194 (47).

TURKEY SETS DRIED FRUIT EXPORT PRICES

The Turkish Ministry of Commerce has granted permission for forward export sales of 1962-crop raisins (sultanas), dried figs, and fig paste and has set minimum export prices for these items.

The new minimum price levels for raisins are \$209 per short ton No. 9 grade and \$218 for No. 10, f.o.b. Turkey. The last minimum prices prevailing for 1961-crop raisins, i.e., until the first of July, were \$227 for No. 9 and \$232 for No. 10. The minima have thus been reduced by \$18 and \$14 per ton, respectively. The minimums can be changed by the Izmir Exporters' Union, depending upon conditions in the international raisin market. A year ago, the minimum prices were still higher--\$259 for No. 9 and \$272 for No. 10.

The new minimum prices for dried figs are 10 percent less than those for the opening of the 1961-62 season. For fig paste a minimum has been set at 8.25 cents per pound, c.i.f. New York and Canadian ports, including 5 percent commission. For the United Kingdom and the Continent, the price is 5 cents per pound, f.o.b. Izmir, also including 5 percent commission.

ITALIAN BRINED CHERRY PACK UP

The 1962 brined cherry pack in Italy is believed to be somewhat larger than the 1961 pack. Tentatively, 1962 production is estimated at 14,000 short tons, compared with 13,000 tons in 1961.

Total Italian cherry production has been forecast at 230,000 tons, a slight increase over the 1961 crop of 223,200 tons. The crop is down in Piemonte and up in Campania and Puglia--the main areas for processing.

Worm damage is reportedly not great except for a few areas in southern Italy. In some areas of northern Italy there is said to be considerable physical damage to fruit.

CHERRIES: Italy, total crop and production of brined and canned fruit and jam, 1960-61, 1961-62, and forecast 1962-63 crop years.

Item	Year beginning June 1 Forecast		
	1960-61	1961-62	1962-63
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Total crop, fresh.....	207,600	223,200	230,000
Brined pack.....	15,000	13,000	14,000
Jam production	18,300	11,000	18,700
Canned pack.....	6,900	3,900	6,600

(Continued)

Italian brined cherry production figures do not include the so-called "Apt" or "sulfurated" cherries, i.e., unstemmed and unpitted brined cherries which are exported to France where they are used for making glace fruit. Italian export data, however, include both brined and "Apt" cherries. The United States is an important market only for the southern exporters.

CHERRIES, BRINED AND "APT": Italy, exports by country
of destination, 1959-60, 1960-61, and 9 months of 1961-62

Country	1959-60	1960-61	June 1961-- February 1962
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
France.....	4,415	13,499	2,175
United Kingdom.....	2,497	3,115	2,231
Canada.....	2,889	4,025	2,391
United States.....	1,764	4,536	862
Other.....	1,955	3,429	2,511
Total.....	13,520	28,604	10,170

Opening prices for brined cherries are slightly lower than a year earlier, due to larger offers of fruit in southern Italy. The trade in northern Italy is reluctant to sell at these prices and expects them to increase later in the season.

CHERRIES, BRINED: Italian f.o.b. prices, 1960-61,
1961-62, and opening 1962-63

Grade	1960-61	1961-62	1962-63
	-U.S. Cents per pound-		
1st.....	20.3	22.1	21.8
2nd.....	17.4	20.7	20.3
3rd.....	10.9	14.2	13.1

WEST GERMANY TO IMPORT CANNED APRICOTS
AND FIGS IN CONSUMER SIZES

The West German Government has announced an import tender for canned apricots and figs in containers of less than 5 kilograms (Note: larger sizes have been previously liberalized).

Applications for import licenses will be accepted from July 11, 1962, until June 28, 1963, or until an undisclosed value limit is reached. Licenses will be issued with a 6-month validity, but not to be valid after June 30, 1963.

The "country of purchase" must be the same as the country of origin of the goods, except that goods already imported into the Common Market area may be imported into West Germany regardless of the country of origin.

FROZEN STRAWBERRIES ARRIVE FROM MEXICO

For the weeks ending July 7 and July 14, preliminary imports of frozen strawberries from Mexico were .4 million pounds and .5 million pounds, respectively.

Official Bureau of the Census imports for May were 5,297,000 pounds. Cumulative imports January through May, were 21,819,000 pounds compared to 23,922,000 pounds for the same period last year. Preliminary imports for June are 5,670,000 lbs. compared to 2,919,000 lbs. for June 1961.

SUDAN HAS RECORD COTTON PRODUCTION

Cotton production in Sudan during the 1961-62 season reached a record of around 925,000 bales (500 pounds gross) according to recent estimates.

This is substantially above last season's crop of 525,000 bales, and annual average production of 503,000 bales in the past 5 seasons. The larger crop this season, about 90 percent of which is extra-long staple, is attributed to increased acreage and higher yields.

Acreage rose to 1,178,000 acres from 940,000 in 1960-61, while yields increased sharply as a result of generally favorable growing conditions. Yields of extra-long staple cotton grown under irrigation climbed to nearly 528 pounds of lint per acre, compared with 322 pounds a year earlier.

For the first time, Sudan in 1961-62 became the world's largest producer of extra-long staple cotton. The 1961-62 crop in Egypt, the traditional leader, was sharply reduced in the wake of severe leaf worm damage and unfavorable growing conditions.

Exports of cotton from Sudan amounted to 251,000 bales during the first half (August-January) of the current season, up 23 percent from shipments of 204,000 bales in the same period of the previous season. Quantities shipped to principal destinations in August-January 1961-62, with comparable 1960-61 figures in parentheses, were: India 47,000 bales (22,000); the United Kingdom 47,000 (76,000); West Germany 39,000 (16,000); Italy 38,000 (16,000); Japan 21,000 (9,000); France 13,000 (15,000); and the U.S.S.R. 9,000 (11,000). Shipments to Communist countries accounted for about 12 percent of total exports during the period under review, down from 19 percent in the same 1960-61 period.

Prices for Sudanese cotton have held relatively steady in world import markets during the last few months, at levels around $1\frac{1}{2}$ cents below a year ago. Quotations in June were over 10 cents a pound below those prevailing 2 years ago, but were well above the long-time lows of less than 30 cents a pound, reached in early 1959. Sudanese Sakel G5S averaged 36.70 cents a pound, c.i.f. Liverpool, in June, compared with 38.22 cents a year earlier.

(Continued)

Cotton consumption in Sudan, previously around 5,000 bales annually, is expected to jump to 15,000 - 20,000 bales this season following the opening of a mill in Khartoum last fall. The capacity of this mill is expected to be expanded considerably within a year or so. In view of the record crop, ending stocks this season appear likely to exceed considerably the beginning stocks of 345,000 bales.

U.S. EXPORTS LESS COTTON LINTERS

U.S. exports of cotton linters amounted to 227,000 bales (500 pounds gross) in the first 10 months (August-May) of the 1961-62 season.

This figure is 23 percent below the 294,000 bales shipped in the same months of 1960-61. Shipments to major destinations from August 1961 through May 1962, with comparable 1960-61 figures in parentheses, were: West Germany 119,000 bales (136,000); Japan 50,000 (88,000); United Kingdom 27,000 (37,000); Canada 13,000 (13,000); France 10,000 (13,000); and the Netherlands 4,000 (2,000).

Exports of linters during May totaled 26,000 bales, compared with 23,000 in April, and 30,000 in May 1961.

DENMARK IMPORTS LESS U.S. COTTON

Imports of U.S. cotton into Denmark dropped more than 50 percent during the first three-quarters (August-April) of the current season, compared with the same months of 1960-61.

During the period under review, the United States supplied only 9,000 bales (500 pounds gross) or 32 percent of Denmark's total intake, against 22,000 bales or 67 percent of the total a year earlier. The total inflow of 28,000 bales was 15 percent below the 33,000 bales in August-April 1960-61.

Imports rose during this period of the current season from some other suppliers of cotton to Denmark. Shipments from Peru increased to 10,000 bales, from 7,000 in August-April 1960-61, while Nigeria entered the market to the extent of 8,000 bales, compared with almost nothing a year earlier. However, no imports from Mexico were reported, although that country furnished 2,000 bales in the previous season.

Consumption in the first 9 months of this season amounted to about 33,000 bales, 6 percent below the 35,000 used in a like 1960-61 period. Reportedly, domestic offtake remained firm during the first part of the current season, while there was some slowing down in recent months. It now appears likely that total consumption this season will ease moderately from the 1960-61 usage of 44,000 bales.

Lower consumption this season could result in imports considerably smaller than last season's 45,000 bales, as reports indicate that stocks will decline somewhat. Stocks at the end of April were estimated at 8,000 bales, compared with 13,000 at the beginning of the season.

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